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THERE ISN'T ANYTHING, BUT THE SKY'S BLUE
Nanimonaikedo Sora wa Aoi
1
Story : Nishimori Hiroyuki
Art : Iinuma Yuuki

1 THERE ISN'T ANYTHING, BUT THE SKY'S BLUE

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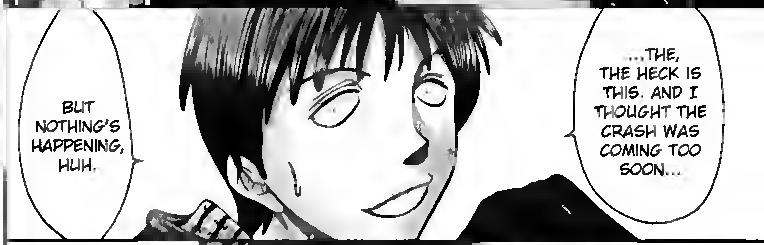
THE SCIENTIST WHO SPOTTED IT ESTIMATED THAT THE METEOR'S IMPAC COULD WIPE OUT HUMAN CIVILIZATION.
THE GREAT MAJORITY PEOPLE COULD NOT ACCEPT IT AND KEPT ON LIVING AS THEY WERE.
A COMPLETELY SLIDDEN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT OUR WORLD WAS ABOUT TO END.
FOR BETTER OR WORSE THE METEOR LANDED MUCH EARLIER THAN WHAT THE EXPERTS HAD PREDICTED.
THANK'S TO THAT, EARTH'S PEOPLE DID NOT HAVE TO SHOW EACH OTHER THEIR PITIFUL PANICKING.
CHAPTER 1 : AN ERA RULED BY VIOLENCE

YET, IN CONTRAST TO THE PREDICTIONS, IT DID NOT STRIKE THE EARTH.

CHAPTER 1 : AN ERA RULED BY VIOLENCE

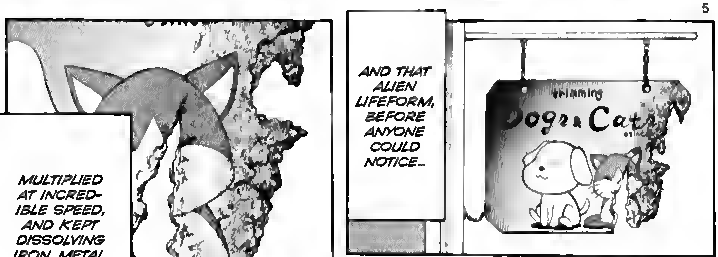
シンの専門店
探偵局
HEY, THERE'S NO "BOOM"...


...THE, THE HECK IS THIS. AND I THOUGHT THE CRASH WAS COMING TOO SOON...
BUT NOTHING'S HAPPENING, HUH.

HAHA, YOU'RE RIGHT...
...

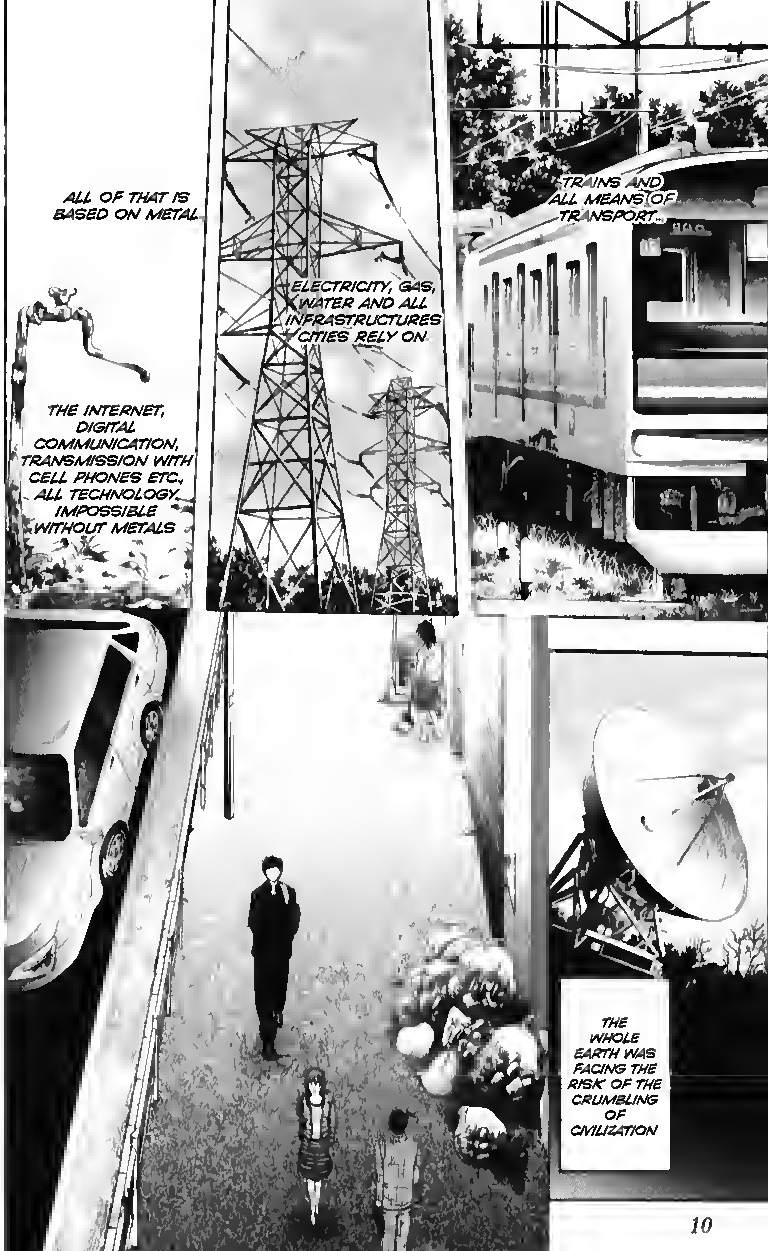
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING,
I MEAN ...
HAHAHA ...

IN THAT CLOUD SPREAD ALL OVER EARTH, LIVED AN UNKNOWN CREATURE.
SO WHAT WAS THAT?
I TOLD YOU THAT'S NOT—
JINKICHI YOU TRIED GRABBING HER CUZ YOU THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER HUH?
BUT THAT DID NOT MEAN THE DANGER WAS OVER
JINKICHI-KUN IS THAT KIND OF GUY. HUH—


MULTIPLIED AT INCREDIBLE SPEED, AND KEPT DISSOLVING IRON..METAL
AND THAT ALIEN LIFEFORM, BEFORE ANYONE COULD NOTICE..
Dogs & Cats

THE RESEARCHERS, BUSY WITH SORTING OUT THE EFFECTS OF THEIR PREDICTION...
ほけんの窓口
ライトニングクリニック
デンタルクリニック
アッパーマンショップ
相談窓口
NOTICED TOO LATE

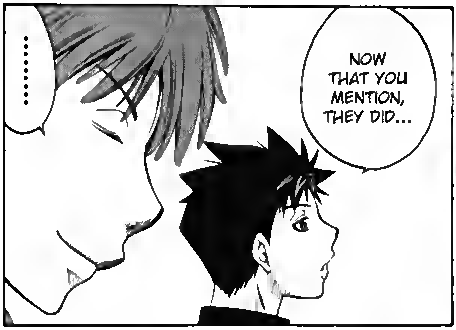
EVER SINCE THE STONE AGE, OUR CIVILIZATION HAS BEEN RELYING ON METAL, ON IRON.

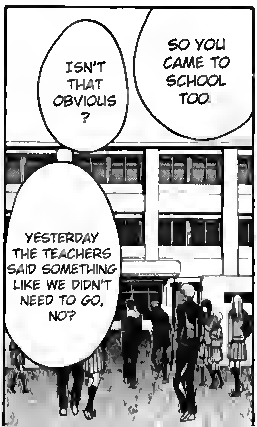

ALL OF THAT IS BASED ON METAL
ELECTRICITY, GAS, WATER AND ALL INFRASTRUCTURES CITIES RELY ON
TRAINS AND ALL MEANS OF TRANSPORT...
THE INTERNET, DIGITAL COMMUNICATION, TRANSMISSION WITH CELL PHONES ETC., ALL TECHNOLOGY IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT METALS
THE WHOLE EARTH WAS FACING THE RISK OF THE CRUMBLING OF CIVILIZATION

M-CITY IS LOCATED 200KM FROM TOKYO. THE METAL CORROSION VARIED FROM AREA TO ERA. IN THIS CITY, THE EFFECT CAME LATER THAN OTHERS.
BUT COMMUNICATIONS WITH OTHER MAJOR CITIES GOT CUT OFF, SO THE CRISIS...WAS ABOUT TO REACH US.

'SUP JINKICHI!
HEY, SHINTARO.

9

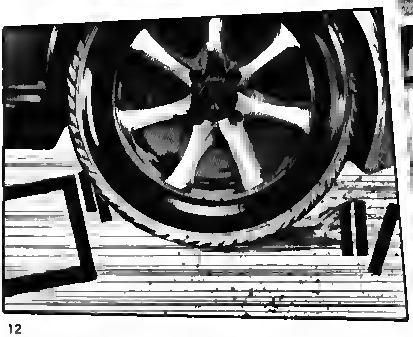

.....
NOW THAT YOU MENTION, THEY DID...


SO YOU CAME TO SCHOOL TOO.
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
YESTERDAY THE TEACHERS SAID SOMETHING LIKE WE DIDN'T NEED TO GO, NO?

CIVILIZATION SURE WAS PRETTY WEAK HUH?
I WONDER WHY WE BUSTED OUR ASSES FOR ALL THIS TIME...
WHAT A DOWNER.
C'MON, THERE'S NOTHING WE SHOULD FEEL DOWN ABOUT. WE...
WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET MANY FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ANYMORE...

WHY WERE YOU EVEN PICTURING PRACTICE SCENES.
WOW
I WAS THINKING OF SOME SERVICE CUTS.
WOW
HOW DID HE GET INSIDE MY HEAD
WHAT!?
CIVILIZATION GETS WIPED OUT, FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GET WIPED OUT TOO, NO?
I BET... SKIMPY OUTFITS LIKE THESE WITH DISAPPEAR ALONGSIDE CIVILIZATION TOO. . WOE IS ME. .
AND THEN...
GIRLS WILL START DRESSING LIKE PRIMITIVES ...!!
11
WAIT UP JINKICHI! CAVEMAN FASHION MIGHT NOT BE THAT BAD ♡ SUPER SEXY ♡
I BET THEY'D BE ALL NO-BRA TOO! CAN'T MAKE'EM ANYMORE!
OOPS?
NO-BRA?
JINKICHI?!
WHERE ARE YOU?

販売
WAIT !!!
HEY YOU!



MISSAN
MISSAN
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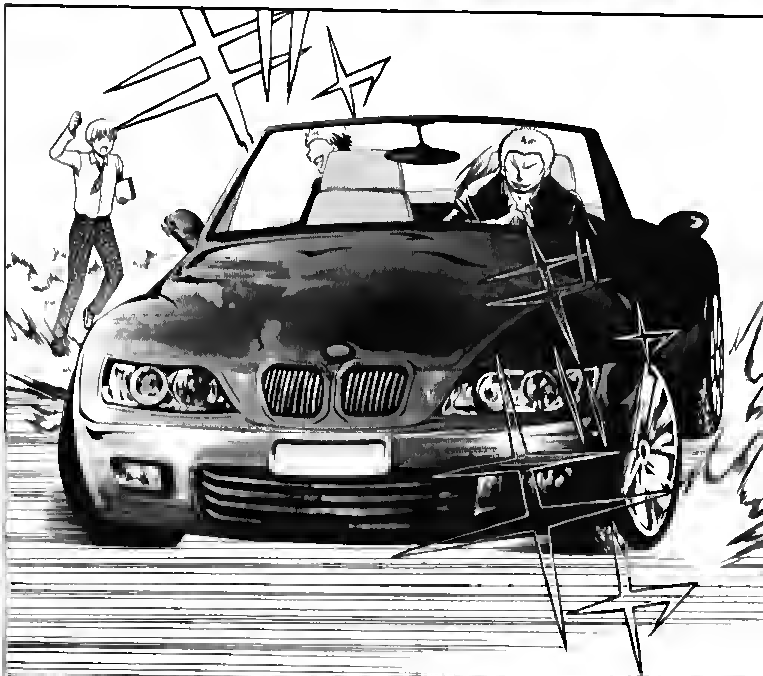
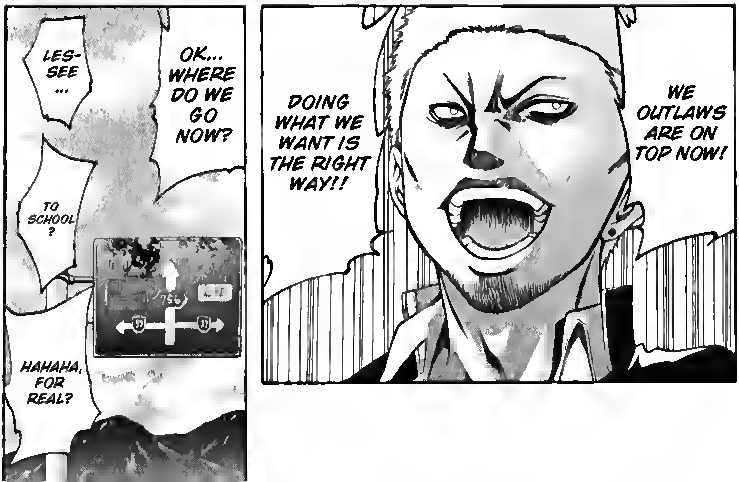
MISSAN



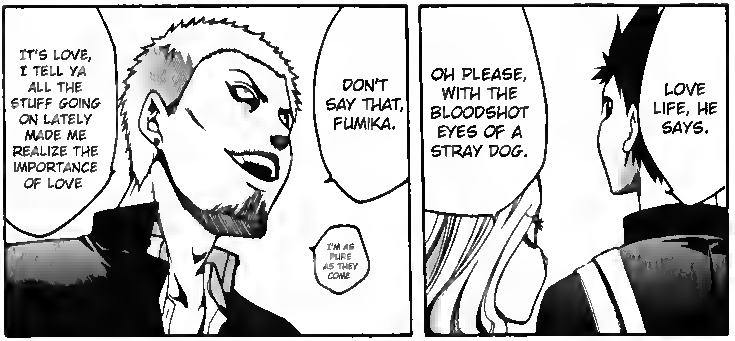
HAHAHA HAHA!
YEAH ---!
DAMN RIGHT IT IS! SENPAI SAID IT, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO NO POLICE'S COMING AROUND ANYMORE!
HEY MAN. IS THIS OK? FOR REAL...?
CRAZY, TAKU-CHAN! IT'S AMERICAN, BABY!

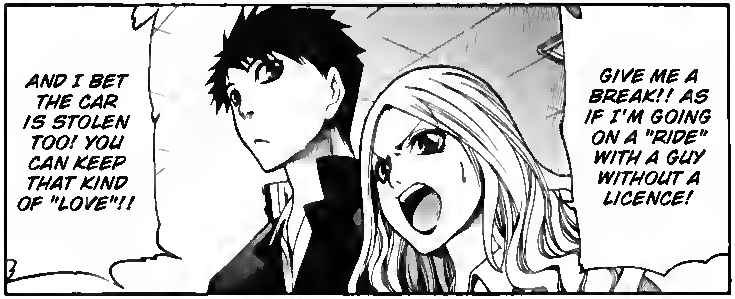

LES-SEE ...
OK... WHERE DO WE GO NOW?
TO SCHOOL ?
HAHAHA, FOR REAL?
DOING WHAT WE WANT IS THE RIGHT WAY!!
WE OUTLAWS ARE ON TOP NOW!

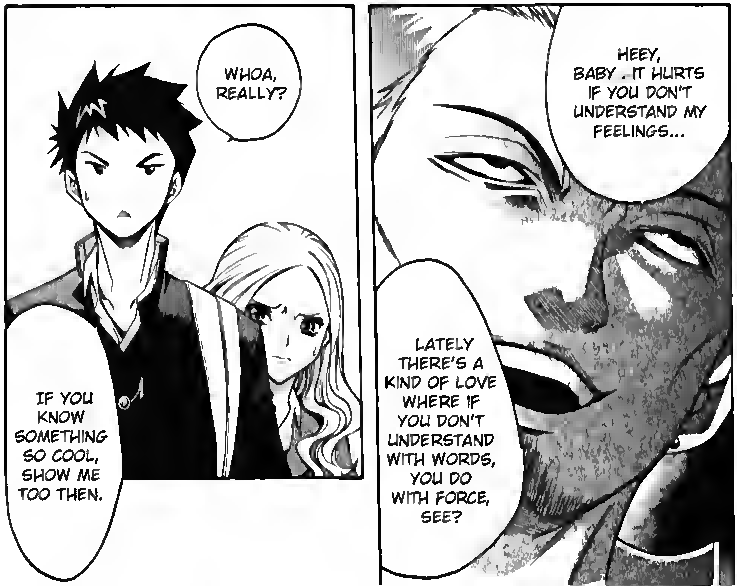
HE WAS ALWAYS A GUY THINKING OF LEWD STUFF, BUT NOT CHANGING EVEN AFTER ALL THIS... GOT TO RESPECT HIS "STABILITY" AT LEAST.
SHINTARO...
14
I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE ME ALONE!!
AND I TOLD YA IT'S POINTLESS TO COME TO SCHOOL ANYMORE.
COME RIDING WITH US, C'MON I KNOW A PLACE THAT'S A BEAUTY AT NIGHT, SEE?
OH THINKING OF LEWD STUFF FROM THE MORNING HUH
YEAH, JINKICHI
I FORESEE THAT LEWD STUFF IS CIVILIZATION THAT WON'T GO AWAY.
I TOLD YOU TO STOP ANSWERING MY MONO-LOGUES
WELL, WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS ALL THIS TIME, SO I JUST FEEL IT--
I WASN'T PRAISING YOU...
16

KAWAKAMI-KUN, PLEASE DO SOMETHING... THIS GUY JUST WON'T GIVE UP!
AA...
SHE JUST SKIPPED ME.
HIDING BEHIND ME COULD'VE WORKED TOO YA KNOW...

HEY KAWAKAMI... DON'T GET IN THE WAY OF MY LOVE LIFE, YOU GOT IT!?


IT'S LOVE, I TELL YA ALL THE STUFF GOING ON LATELY MADE ME REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVE
DON'T SAY THAT, FUMIKA.
I'M AS PURE AS THEY COME
OH PLEASE, WITH THE BLOODSHOT EYES OF A STRAY DOG.
LOVE LIFE, HE SAYS.


AND I BET THE CAR IS STOLEN TOO! YOU CAN KEEP THAT KIND OF "LOVE"!!
GIVE ME A BREAK!! AS IF I'M GOING ON A "RIDE" WITH A GUY WITHOUT A LICENCE!


WHOA, REALLY?
IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING SO COOL, SHOW ME TOO THEN.
HEEY, BABY . IT HURTS IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS...
LATELY THERE'S A KIND OF LOVE WHERE IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WITH WORDS, YOU DO WITH FORCE, SEE?

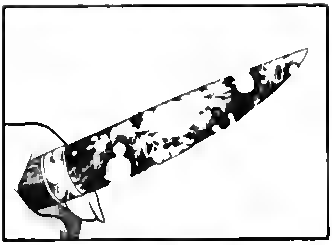
KAWAKAMI-KUN... YOU WENT TO THE NATIONALS OF KENDO, YEAH?

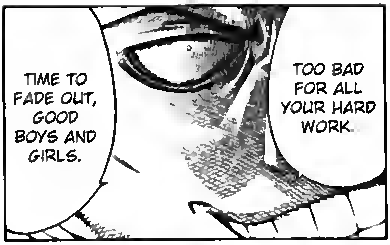
YOU WORKED HARD IN YOUR LITTLE CLUB, TEACHERS' PUPIL AND ALL, EVERYONE CHEERING FOR YOU, HOW NICE.

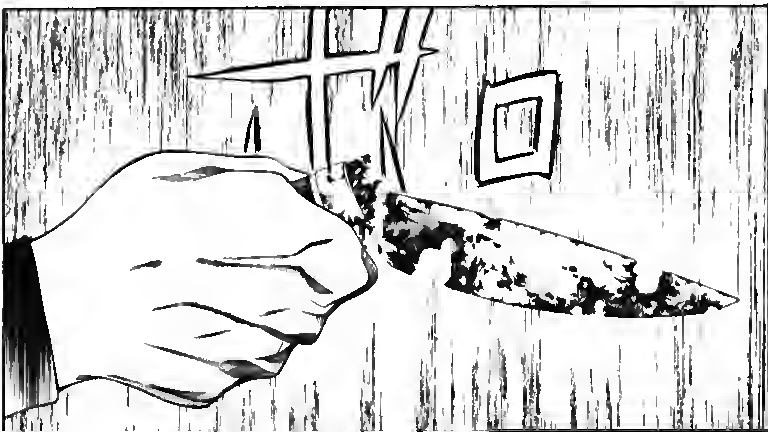
WHAT A SERIOUS BOY, SO ADMIRABLE.

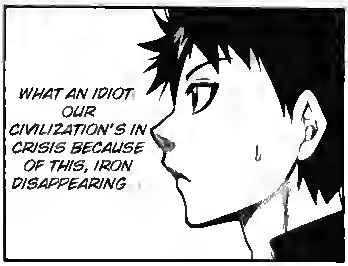
MOMMY AND DADDY'S PRIDE AND JOY?

NOW THIS IS WHAT MATTERS. THIS ERA IS RULED BY VIOLENCE!
YOU CHUMPS STILL CLINGING TO YOUR LITTLE SCHOOL CAN'T SEE IT, I BET...



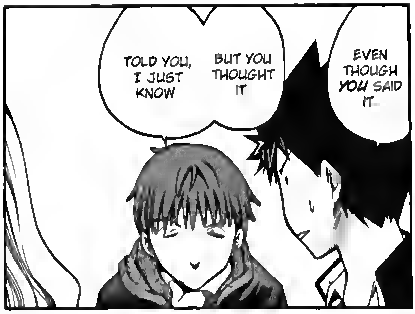

TIME TO FADE OUT, GOOD BOYS AND GIRLS.
TOO BAD FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK.




WHAT AN IDIOT. OUR CIVILIZATION'S IN CRISIS BECAUSE OF THIS, IRON DISAPPEARING

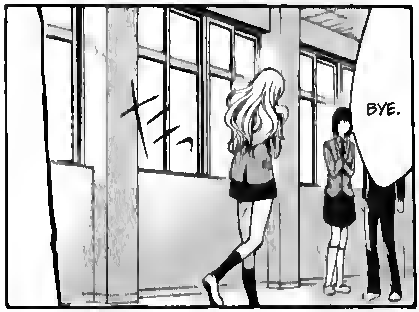
WHA!?

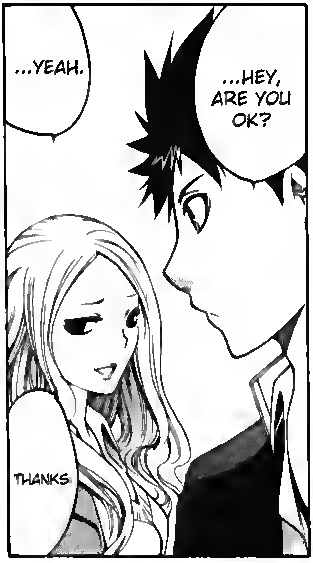
...KAWAKAMI, DON'T THINK A BETTER TOMORROW IS COMING FOR YOUR ASS...
YOU'RE DUMB OR WHAT? THE CIVILIZATION'S GOING DOWN THE DRAIN BECAUSE OF IRON DISAPPEARING, IS WHAT THEY ALL SAY RIGHT?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH A KNIFE
WHOOPS. HE SAID IT OUT LOUD


EVEN THOUGH YOU SAID IT...
BUT YOU THOUGHT IT
TOLD YOU, I JUST KNOW

WHOA

THIS ERA IS RULED BY VIOLENCE...

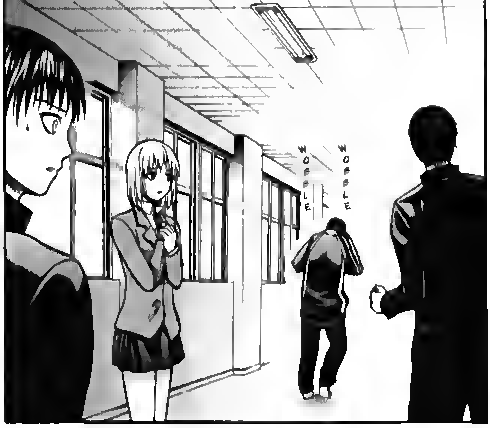

BYE.

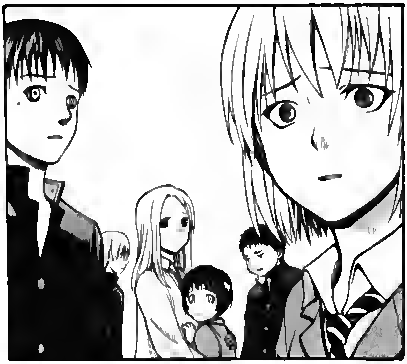

...YEAH.
...HEY, ARE YOU OK?
THANKS.

?

HEY YOU!
YOU WERE THE ONES RIDING THE CAR IN THE COURTYARD RIGHT!?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING? YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO EVEN HAVE A LICENSE!

MAN, SHUT THE HELL UP.
I, IS THAT THE WAY TO ADDRESS YOUR TEACHER!?
WHA, WHAT THE...
HEHEHE
QUIT ACTING LIKE A TEACHER.
HAH, DUMB-ASS.
GOODBYE TEACH, WE'RE QUITTING SCHOOL~


WOBBLE
WOBBLE



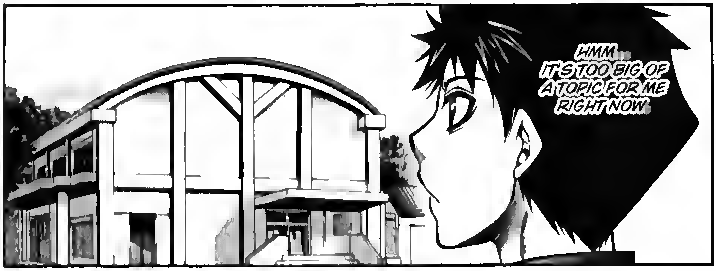
ENDING LIKE THIS, WITHOUT EVEN A GRADUATION CEREMONY... IT'S TOO SAD.

THERE'S NO OTHER WAY... WE OURSELVES HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT TO EAT TOMORROW.
THE GOVERNMENT'S TOO SLOW IN DEALING WITH THIS... IN THE END WE DIDN'T GET ANY INSTRUCTIONS
NO WAY TO CONTACT THEM EITHER
WE HAVE NOTHING TO TEACH THEM

WHAT HAPPENED, EVERYONE JUST STARTED GOING HOME.
WHAT?

I'M NOT GOING BACK YET...
I HAD A GOAL IN COMING TO SCHOOL TODAY
THEY CAME TO SCHOOL TO FIND THEIR USUAL DAILY ROUTINE, KINDA.
DO YOUR BEST
SURE!
IN THEIR UNI-FORMS!!
SAY HI TO AS MANY GIRLS AS POSSIBLE, AND BURN THAT IMAGE IN MY BRAIN...
WHAT GOAL IS THAT?
BUT THEY GOT SHOWN SOMETHING TOTALLY UNUSUAL... AND RETREATED

WHAT WAS MY GOAL IN ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL...?
FOR ME
A GOAL...

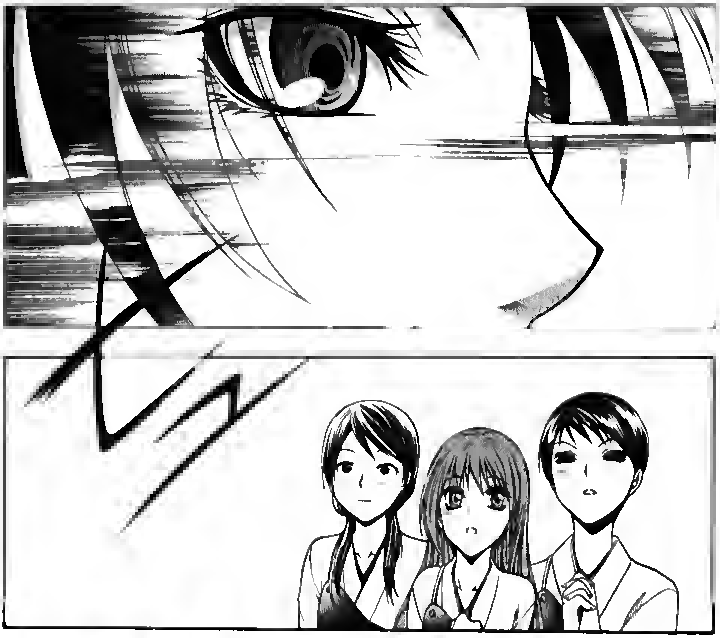

HMM... IT'S TOO BIG OF A TOPIC FOR ME RIGHT NOW.

24

I THINK THERE ARE DREAMS WE CAN STILL HOPE TO ACHIEVE.
PLEASE, DON'T LET THEM GO
EVERYONE, THIS MAY BE THE LAST ONE.
IT'S NOT A VERY HOPEFUL SITUATION BUT,

I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT ANYTHING.

THE SITUATION OUTSIDE PUSHED IT ALL BACK.
I JUST THAT.



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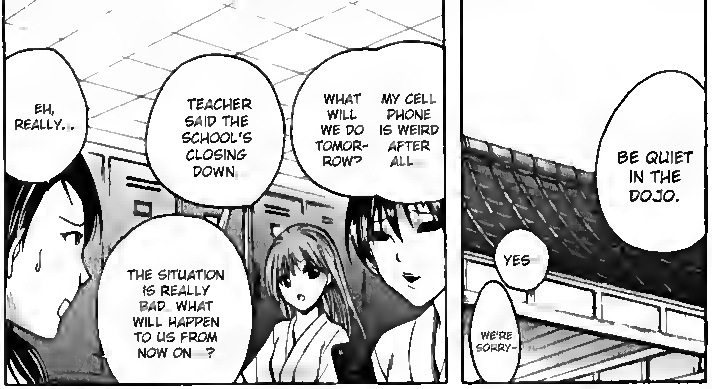
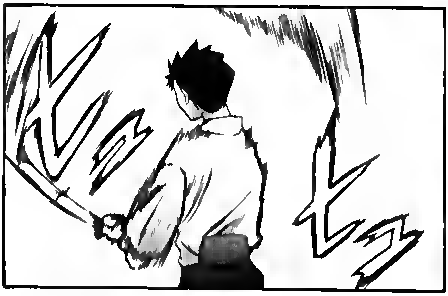
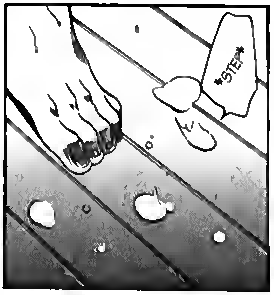

EH, REALLY..
TEACHER SAID THE SCHOOL'S CLOSING DOWN.
WHAT WILL WE DO TOMOR-ROW?
MY CELL PHONE IS WEIRD AFTER ALL
THE SITUATION IS REALLY BAD. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO US FROM NOW ON...?
BE QUIET IN THE DOJO.
YES...
WE'RE SORRY~

EH, WHA...
KARA-SAN, HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM?
WHAT HAPPENS, HAPPENS.
THAT'S BECAUSE... I HAVE A CLEAR GOAL IN LIFE.

C'MON, IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD, TELL US~
I DON'T THINK IT'S THE END.

IT'S A SECRET
WHAT'S THAT KARA? TELL US, C'MON.
EH~ FIRST TIME I HEAR IT~~




STE

WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT ARE YOU WORKING SO HARD FOR.

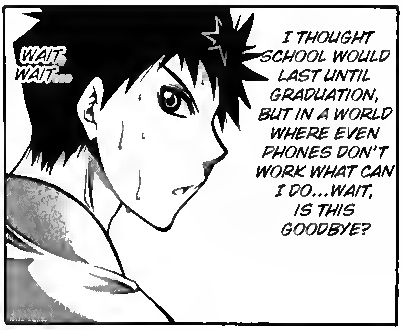
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA

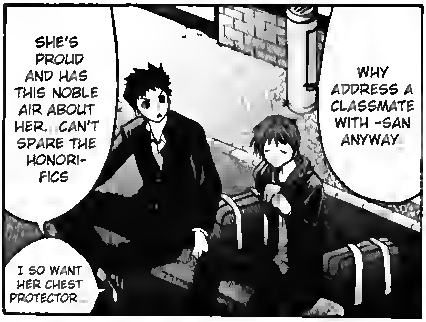
WHAT... WHAT WAS IT?
YOU LOOK AS STINKY AS USUAL BY THE WAY.
SHADDAP!
I'LL HAVE YOU SMELL HOW MUCH I REALLY STINK!!

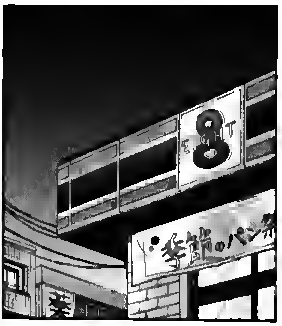
HEH.

SHICHINOMI YA KARA.
SHE'S REALLY TOUGH...
TO SHOW ME I DON'T HAVE THE GUTS, HUH.
SHEESH, SHE JUST STOOD THERE...
32
KARA...
WITH THE SCHOOL CLOSED DOWN...
WHAT IS SHE GOING TO DO...

OOOH, ARE YOU BURNING HER IMAGE, COMRADE?
KARA-SAN IS REALLY SOMETHING ELSE.
WON'T SHE GIVE ME HER CHEST PROTECTOR.


WAIT, WAIT...
I THOUGHT SCHOOL WOULD LAST UNTIL GRADUATION, BUT IN A WORLD WHERE EVEN PHONES DON'T WORK WHAT CAN I DO...WAIT, IS THIS GOODBYE?


SHE'S PROUD AND HAS THIS NOBLE AIR ABOUT HER. CAN'T SPARE THE HONORIFICS
WHY ADDRESS A CLASSMATE WITH -SAN ANYWAY.
I SO WANT HER CHEST PROTECTOR...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KARA JUST ACTS HIGH AND MIGHTY, C'MON
HEH, PROUD AND NOBLE, HUH.

KARA-SAN SHE'S MY DREAM TOO. I WANT TO OFFER HER A BOUQUET OF ROSES ONE DAY.
MIGHT AS WELL GO STEAL THAT CHEST PROTECTOR...

I AM TRULY SORRY FOR BEING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY THEN
WHAT TIMING...

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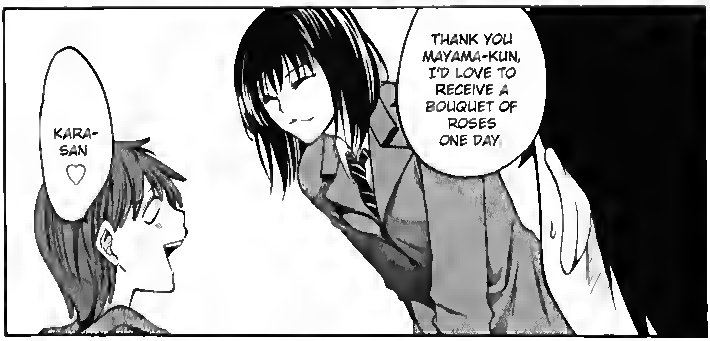
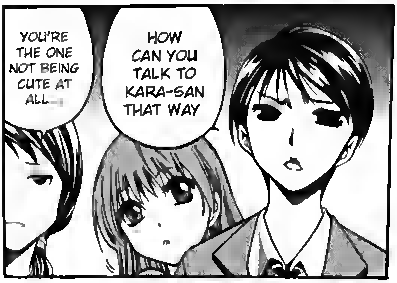
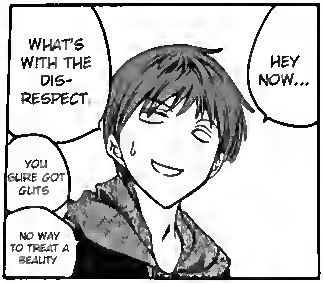

THANK YOU MAYAMA-KUN, I'D LOVE TO RECEIVE A BOUQUET OF ROSES ONE DAY.
KARA-SAN ♡

YOU REALLY AREN'T CUTE AT ALL.
THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M SAYING USUALLY IF YOU HEAR PEOPLE SAYING NASTY THINGS ABOUT YOU, YOU'D TURN AND RUN...

BY THE WAY KAWAKAMI-KUN, DO I REALLY LOOK DOWN ON OTHERS SO MUCH?


YOU'RE THE ONE NOT BEING CUTE AT ALL...
HOW CAN YOU TALK TO KARA-SAN THAT WAY

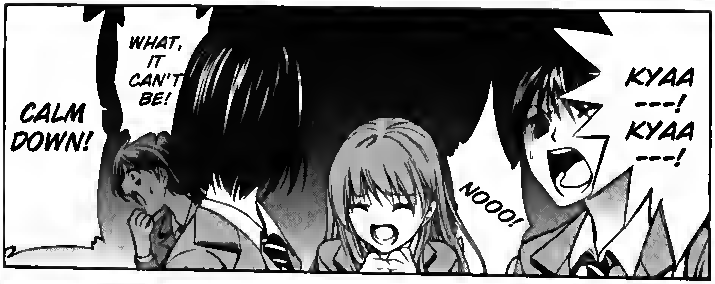

HEY NOW...
WHAT'S WITH THE DIS-RESPECT.
YOU SURE GOT GUTS
NO WAY TO TREAT A BEAUTY

I TOLD YOU TO STOP LOOKING DOWN ON ME LIKE THAT!
IT SEEMS I SHOWED BAD MANNERS. APOLOGIES.

I SEE...
HEHE

STEP
QUIT LOOKING DOWN ON ME WILL YA--!
YES, WRAPPED IT WITH A LAUGH
PPT
ARE YOU AN IDIOT?
WAHAHA

WHA?
THE LIGHTS!
KYAA!


WHAT, IT CAN'T BE!
CALM DOWN!
NOOO!
KYAA ---! KYAA ---!

37

I'M SCARED... SO SCARED, KARA.
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US...
CALM DOWN PLEASE. IT'S JUST A BLACK-OUT.
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE —!
DON'T BE SCARED, AKARI

EVEN INSIDE A DEEP DARKNESS MOST PEOPLE BORN THIS ERA NEVER EXPERIENCED...
WHETHER WE GET SCARED OR NOT.. WHAT HAPPENS, HAPPENS.
SO IF YOU'RE NOT SCARED IT'S YOUR WIN RIGHT?
38
KARA WAS THERE, UNCHANGED.
KARA THIS ISN'T ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING...
IT IS.
IF SHE DID GET EVEN A LITTLE SCARED THAT'D BE SOMETHING TO SEE TOO

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OM BAOAI	PROOFREADER
SHOTIN	CLEANER
SHOTIN	REDRAWER
OANZII	TYPESETTOR
OM BAOAI	QUALITY

NOTES

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